

Grand Region News

Team MDOT and You: Working together to move Michigan forward

Want to know more about a specific project? Contact your local Transportation Service Center.

- **Grand Rapids**
(Kent and Ottawa counties)
616-451-3091
- **Howard City**
(Ionia, Mecosta and Montcalm counties)
231-937-7780
- **Muskegon**
(Muskegon, Newaygo and Oceana counties)
231-777-3451

MDOT Grand Region
1420 Front Avenue, N.W.,
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

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We're on the Web!
www.michigan.gov/mdot

For information on these and other projects, please call the MDOT Road Repair hotline at 616-482-PAVE (7283) in Grand Rapids, or call toll-free at 1-888-305-PAVE (7283).

Progress continues on M-6/Paul B. Henry Freeway in Grand Rapids

Work continues on the 20-mile-long limited access freeway as the project moves toward its scheduled 2005 opening. Construction on the M-6/US-131 interchange was completed in late 2003, as was the reconstruction of northbound US-131 between 76th and 44th streets. Phases II and III (M-37 to US-131 and US-131 to I-196) are being constructed concurrently, and will be opened at the same time.



M-6/US-131 interchange - Oct. 2003



M-6/I-196 interchange - Oct. 2003

2004 construction season at a glance

The Grand Region's 2004 construction program is a strategic blend of new road and bridge construction, system preservation and safety improvements. Some of the major projects include:

- **I-96 between 68th and 16th avenues (Coopersville and Marne):**
Reconstruction of nine miles of I-96, realignment of the westbound I-96 exit ramp to 68th Avenue, reconstruction and widening of the 68th Avenue bridge over I-96, resurfacing and widening of the Park and Ride Carpool lot and many other improvements. This approximately \$23 million project will be complete in September 2004.
- **M-45 (Lake Michigan Drive) between Manzana Drive and I-196:**
Reconstruction/resurfacing three miles of M-45 in the cities of Walker and Grand Rapids. In addition, M-45 will be widened between Manzana Drive through just west of Covell Avenue to create a center left-turn lane. This approximately \$7 million project will be complete in late-fall 2004.

Going on a summer trip? Avoid construction delays by planning ahead with MDOT's *2004 Paving the Way* construction guide. Printed copies are available at all MDOT TSCs, Region Offices and Welcome Centers; or by calling the MDOT Office of Communications at 517-373-2160. Also, the guide can also be found online on the MDOT Web site at www.michigan.gov/mdot.

The Grand Region's construction projects identified in the 2004 through 2008 Five Year Road and Bridge Program total approximately \$231 million. These projects will upgrade nearly 300 miles of state trunklines in the Grand Region and improve 57 bridges throughout the region.

The Grand Region serves eight counties in the western part of Michigan. These include Ionia, Kent, Mecosta, Montcalm, Newaygo, Oceana, and Ottawa counties. Major state trunklines in the region include I-96, I-196, US-31, US-131 and soon, the new M-6 freeway.

Want to see more pictures of M-6 being built? Check out the M-6 Photo Album at www.aboutm6.com

- **M-11 (28th Street) at Breton and Kalamazoo avenues:** Intersection reconstruction at both locations with concrete pavement. Also included are curb and gutter replacements, signal upgrades, drainage modifications and sidewalk replacements. This approximately \$1.6 million project will be completed in two phases; M-11 at Breton Avenue will be completed before Memorial Day, while work at Kalamazoo Avenue will begin in June and be completed in early August.
- **M-50 between Washington Boulevard and Cemetery Road:** Reconstruction of 1.3 miles of M-50 from the west village limit of Lake Odessa (Washington Boulevard) to just east of Cemetery Road. Additional improvements include curb and gutter repairs, utility, drainage and other improvements throughout the project area. This approximately \$3 million project will be complete in September.
- **M-20 between M-37 and Swain Street:** Reconstruction of 0.5 mile of M-20 in White Cloud. The project includes removing and replacing the existing pavement, curb and gutter, rebuilding the existing railroad crossing, upgrading the sanitary sewer and many other improvements. This approximately \$850,000 project will begin in August and be complete in October.

Trains, planes, automobiles, and much more were focus of first-ever Transportation Summit

A rare opportunity to gaze into the future and create the vision for a safe, effective and flexible transportation system for Michigan was the challenge put to more than 500 participants and anyone with Internet access at the first-of-its kind Transportation Summit, held in December 2003. The Summit, conceived by Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm and MDOT Director Gloria J. Jeff, brought together transportation specialists, stakeholders, and individual citizens from Michigan, other states and Canada to project into the future and participate in discussions that will help craft a broad-visioned transportation plan to meet the future needs of Michigan businesses and communities. The Summit focused on nine key issues discussed in a series of breakout sessions scattered throughout the two days. Expert facilitators in each breakout session guided discussions on Asset Management; Research and Evaluation; Land Use; Mobility Options; Communications Consciousness Raising and Public Involvement; Safety; Commerce and Trade; Coordination, Cooperation and Connectivity; and Funding. The entire Michigan Transportation Summit can be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.michigan.gov/transportationsummit/>.



More than 500 attendees met to met to discuss transportation issues.



MDOT Director Gloria Jeff addressed the group.